GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:226
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2016
Theft of Petroleum Products
Tadas Shri Ramdas Chandrabhanji

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of theft/pilferage of crude oil/gas from pipelines, refineries and depots etc. in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such cases reported/noticed by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year, Oil Marketing Company (OMC)-wise and State/UT-wise including Haryana;
(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons/officials found involved therein; and
(d) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent oil/gas theft/pilferage in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) & (b): Details of cases of theft/pilferage of crude oil/gas from pipelines, refineries and depots etc. in the country as reported/noticed by three Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) & Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) during last three years and current year, is given in Annexure.
(c) FIRs are lodged with respective police stations in cases of theft/pilferage of oil/gas from pipelines which have taken place in different States. The cases are pursued by the concerned OMCs with the State Administration and Police Authorities at different levels.
(d) :- Following steps have been taken by the Oil PSUs to prevent theft/pilferage of crude oil/gas from pipelines, refineries and depots etc:-
i. Round the clock monitoring of Pipeline flow and pressure through Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) for pipelines.
ii. Daily foot patrolling by Line Patrolmen (LPM).
iii. Continuous interaction & sensitizing of villagers along pipeline Right of Way (ROW).
iv. Continuous monitoring of Repeater cum Cathodic Protection System (RCP) through CCTV based surveillance system.
v. Issue of pilferages is being taken up at various levels of the police in all the States. Also regular interaction maintained with civil administration.
vi. Electronic Surveillance ; and
vii. Patrolling by local police.
Besides, Government has amended the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 to make it more stringent with provision of deterrent punishment for offenders engaged in pilferage and sabotage of petroleum and gas pipelines.